[CONFIDENTIAL.

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RAJPUTANA, Received up to 13th July, 1885.

POLITICAL.

that all fear of the immediate retirement of Lord Dufferin. went of Lord Dufferin, owing to the elevation of Lord Randolph Churchill to the India Office, has been removed by the statement of the Simla correspondent of the Bombay Gazette, and that the public mind has been reassured. India is not at present in a position to part with a Viceroy who has saved her and England from a great war. His resignation was sure to have an evil effect on the friendly feeling of the Amír towards the British Government, inasmuch as His Highness has great confidence in him. Another danger to be apprehended from his departure was that Lord Lytton might have been again sent out as Viceroy by Lord Salisbury.

The Aftab-i-Panjab (Lahore), of the 8th July, says that it

Expulsion of Barakzai is believed that, at the instance of the Sardárs from Pesháwar.

Amír, the Commissioner of Pesháwar has lately ordered the Barakzai Sardárs there to migrate to a more central place in this country. The Sardárs are reported

Circulation, 600 copies.

Circulation, 500 copies.

to be averse to migration and even to be ready to give up their pensions if they are allowed to remain at Pesháwar. The expulsion of such a loyal class of people from their houses merely to please the Amír is unjustifiable. If His Highness apprehends any dauger from them, the Commissioner should obtain assurances from them on this point. If they are forced to migrate, they may secretly escape to some of the neighbouring hills and become a cause of anxiety.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Circulation, 600 copies.

The Hindustani (Lucknow), of the 10th July, referring to the Newspaper Copyright Bill, remarks that the Bill prohibits the Copyright Bill. republication of a telegram by one newspaper from another until 24 hours have elapsed since its first appearance. Such a law is quite superfluous, and obtains at present only in Melbourne in Australia. When no necessity has been felt for it even in England and America, where journalism has been brought to perfection, it can hardly be required in this country, where journalism is yet, so to speak, in its infancy. It is a mistake to suppose that private enterprise in journalism suffers from the want of such protection. There are only three newspapers, namely, the Pioneer, the Times of India, and the Englishman, which compete with each other in publishing telegrams from their correspondents. As for the other dailies, they have all made their arrangements with Reuter's agents for the supply of telegrams, and, as it is, do not benefit by the special telegrams which appear in the three publications mentioned above. The Calcutta Statesman is the only journal which issues in the afternoon, and which is consequently able to utilize the telegrams of the morning papers. True, native papers copy telegrams from Anglo-Indian dailies, but

the latter suffer no loss from this. Surely, it will be the height of unwisdom to pass such an objectionable measure, simply in order to protect the morning papers against the Statesman. Moreover, it should be remembered that the

measure will by no means tend to increase the circulation of Anglo-Indian dailies, because the patronage of a newspaper by the public does not depend so much on the publication of latest telegrams as on the principles on which it is conducted. Suppose the Indian Mirror ceases to reprint telegrams from Anglo-Indian papers. Will this tend to reduce the number of its subscribers? Certainly not. It is only in times of great political crises that latest telegrams are Hence it will be seen that the Copyright Bill will not benefit Anglo-Indian newspapers in general nor will it inflict any loss on native publications. Bat, no doubt, the public suffer from it. It is to be hoped that Mr. Ilbert will not sacrifice the public convenience to the interests of Reuter and the three Anglo-Indian newspapers mentioned aboveone of which, viz., the Englishman, is itself opposed to the measure.

The same paper says that it appears from the latest mail news that Mr. Slagg was to make a Mr. Slagg's motion for an inquiry into the Gov-ernment of India. motion in the House of Commons for an inquiry into the state of the India Office on the night preceding that on which the late Liberal Government suffered a defeated over the Revenue Bill, and that Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Bright were to support the motion. But the change of Ministry prevented the motion, and thus a golden opportunity for putting that disgraceful institution, the India Office, in order was lost. Mr. Slagg is still inclined to introduce his motion, but Parliament is not now likely to take much interest in Indian affairs, owing to the frontier question having receded to the background.

The same paper regrets to say that the treatment which

Maulvi Muhammad Husain, Extra Assistant Commissioner.

In a tives, who put themselves to the
trouble and expense of going to England to complete their education
there, receive at the hands of Government on their return

home, is very unsatisfactory. Look at the case of Mr. Siráju-l-din, Barrister-at-law. Maulvi Muhammad Husain is another case in point. Mr. Ozanne, C.S., who passed only in four subjects at the Agricultural College in England and obtained a second class certificate, has been appointed Director of Agriculture in Bombay, while in the North-Western Provinces Maulvi Muhammad Husain, who passed in thirteen subjects and stood first at the final examination, has been made only an Extra Assistant Commissioner of the last grade on Rs. 250 a month! The Hindustání shares the surprise and regret of the Azád newspaper at the maintenance of such an invidious distinction of race by Government, and inquires whether the Talukdárs in Oudh could not usefully avail themselves of the services of the Maulvi.

Circulation, 450 copies.

The Koh-i-Núr (Lahore), of the 7th July, referring to the Natives and the public letter contributed by an Anglo-Indian service. to the Lahore Tribune, in answer to the observation of the Pioneer, that if Alikhanoff is an officer in the Russian Army, Mr. Saiyid Mahmud is a Judge of the Allahabad High Court, highly praises the Anglo-Indian for his impartiality, and remarks that natives are entitled to a fair share in the administration of their country. But it is to be regretted that the Pioneer and other Anglo-Indian newspapers of that class, far from urging a redress of the just grievances of the people, only add insult to injury. The newspapers in question desire that the loaves and fishes of Government should be monopolized by their own countrymen, and utterly ignore the claims of the children of the soil. This policy is a mischievous one and is not calculated to increase the popularity of British rule. It would seem that the Civil and Military Departments in Russia are not quite separate and that Military Officers there also hold Civil offices. According to the statement of a correspondent of the Times of India, the Russian Jovernment admits all classes of its subjects to its service in Central Asia, without distinction of creed or colour.

The Government of India should also throw open the Military service to natives. If European troops cannot be placed under native officers, there could be no difficulty in appointing native officers to the command of native regiments.

The Nasim-i-Hind (Fatehpur), of the 7th July, argues that the Court of a Subordinate Judge is much needed at Fatehpur.

At present, suitors have to go to

Circulation, 96 copies.

Cawnpore, to their considerable inconvenience and expense. On an average, a suitor has to go to Cawnpore no less than ten times between the institution of a suit and its final decision, and the evil is aggravated by the circumstance that the Subordinate Judge there is overworked. Though Fatchpur is a small district, litigation is comparatively heavy. There are a Magistrate, a Joint-Magistrate, an Assistant Magistrate and two Deputy Collectors there. A separate Subordinate Judge should be appointed. But if this be impossible owing to financial considerations, the Munsif's Court should be abolished and a Subordinate Judge's Court with the powers of a Munsif be established in its place, as has been done at Bánda.

The Najmu-l-Akhbár (Etáwah), of the 4th July, in answer to the Nasím-i-Agra's attack on Mr. Fisher, Magistrate of Etáwah, and the Nasím-i-Agra.

Fisher, Magistrate of Etáwah, remarks that the Nasím has given only

marks that the Nasim has given only a one-sided version of the story. Chedi Lál's secret object in constructing a temple on the top of his house was to interfere with the offer of prayers by Musalmans at a mosque in the neighbourhood. Religious feeling has run high at Etawah for some years past and an outbreak was imminent during the late Muharram. On the last day of the Muharram the Hindús held a religious meeting and blew the shell. Mr. Fisher, who was on the alert during the whole night, at once stopped the shell, otherwise serious riots would have taken place. The Nasim is wrong in saying that no objection was made to the proposed construction of a temple by Chedi Lál.

Circulation, 275 copies.

The Musalmans filed an objection and then the Magistrate himself visited the spot. He was satisfied that the construction of a temple was sure to be a fruitful source of strife between the two classes. Hence the erection of a regular temple was prohibited; but Chedi Lal was allowed to build a house and to keep idols there, but not to use the shell or the bell. No unprejudiced Hindú or Musalmán will take exception to the orders of the Magistrate. As regards Mr. Fisher's alleged intolerance of difference of opinion, it should be observed that he was very anxious to abolish the octroi duty in order to encourage trade, and to impose a direct tax in its place. But as the members of the municipal committee differed from him, he gave up the idea. The removal of potters' kilns from within the town deserves to be praised, rather than blamed, on sanitary grounds. As regards the sale of Meerut pottery at Etáwah, had the potters at Etáwah struck and suspended trade, surely pottery would have been imported from the neighbouring towns and villages and not from such a distant place as Meerut. But of course the superior kinds of pottery of Meerut, Lucknow and Amroha, which are well known for their beauty, are often brought to Etawah for sale. Again, the Nasim found fault with Mr. Fisher's attendance at Court. But this charge is as unfounded as the others. Mr. Fisher regularly goes to Court, and attends to every kind of business. He freely receives visitors on Monday and Thursday during the week, and treats them with civility. In short, he is a model District Officer. If there were more European officers like him, the gulf that separates the two communities would be soon bridged.

The same paper, of the 8th July, says that, although the Natives and the public Russian Government is comparatively uncivilized and tyrannical, it recognises no distinction of creed or colour in the matter of distribution of public patronage. It is well known that no native holds such a high office in this country as Alikhanoff does in Russia. The Pioneer lately referred to Mr. Saiyid

Mahmud, late Officiating Judge in the Allahabad High Court, as a parallel to Alikhanoff. But a native of Sarrakha has recently been made Governor of Panjdeh by the Russian Government. It remains to be seen what native officer in this country will be referred to by the Pioneer in answer to this appointment. The Pioneer had better declare that the Governor of a province in Russia corresponds to a Tahsildar here, and that hence there are not one but thousands of native governors in this country.

The same paper regrets to say that, although natives have Sir James Fergusson, and repeatedly shown their readiness to sacrifice their lives and property on behalf of Government, their loyalty continues to be doubted in some quarters. The universal enthusiasm exhibited by them during the late imminence of war between Russia and England extorted praise even from their worst enemies, the Anglo-Indian newpapers; but still Sir James Fergusson, the ex-Governor of Bombay, regards it as mere moonshine. Such mistrust cannot but be very annoying to all classes of natives. Officers, with such prejudices cannot be expected to sympathize with them.

Pioneer and Muhamma- ready to injure natives, does not dan marriage law. hesitate even to recommend interference with their religious affairs. It lately declared that the rules framed twelve hundred years ago for marriages among Muhammadans were not suited to the present times and recommended that they should be altered. The Pioneer would give Muhammadan women the same freedom which is enjoyed by European women in the matter of marriage! But Musalmans are quite satisfied with their old rules and desire no change.

The same paper says that some Magistrates are to all I'd and the Magistrate of intents and purposes absolute monarchs Budaun.

in their districts, and do as they

please. It appears from the Nastm-i-Sakar of Budaun that the Magistrate there sanctioned a holiday for the 14th July on account of the Id, warning his Muhammadan subordinates that if they did not observe the festival that day, they would not be allowed leave on any other day! Surely they had no control over the moon, and they required the holiday for the performance of their religious ceremonies and not for amusement.

The same paper is glad to observe that the Madras GoProfessional training in vernment has sanctioned the proposal
Madras. of the Director of Public Instruction
in that province for the introduction of professional training.
This is a move in the right direction. The present system
of education, which excludes all professional training, has
really done more harm than good. Boys, educated under
this system, seek employment in the public service as the
only means of earning their livelihood, and look down on their
hereditary callings and professions with contempt. It is to be
hoped that other Local Governments, especially the Government of the United Provinces, will follow the good example
set by the Madras Government.

The Lahore Gazette, of the 11th July, adverting to the Failures of justice in Lahore stabbing and the Peshawar mixed cases.

Shooting cases, observes that the constant failures of justice in such cases are a dark stain on the fair fame of British justice.

Circulation, 500 copies.

The Aftab-i Panjab (Lahore), of the 6th July, refers to the Peshawar shooting case, and regrets to say that native newspapers have cried themselves hoarse over the miscarriages of justice in such cases, but in vain. Government has not devoted ever so much attention to the subject as it would to a case regarding the killing of a dog belonging to a European. Natives are now killed almost every week by Europeans. But it is supprising that neither the Local Governments nor the High

Courts have yet considered it necessary to send for a monthly or an annual statement of such cases from the District Officers. The Aftab is of opinion that native publications should publish a statement every year. Some European soldiers have lately been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment each for making an indecent assault on a European lady, but such punishment is never inflicted on European soldiers even for causing the death of natives.

Presentation of an address by a municipal committee to a Deputy Commissioner in the Panjáb.

Committee published in pages 165 and 166 of the Local Self-Government

Journal of Gujránwálla, for June, giving an account of the Deputy Commissioner's visit to the municipality, remarks that it would seem that an address was presented to him by the committee on the occasion. The question is whether he had obtained permission from the Local Government to receive the address. The paper also finds fault with the committee for applying the title of His Honor to the Deputy Commissioner in its proceedings.

The Ghamkhwár-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 4th July, says

Deputy Inspectors of that, as Deputy Inspectors of Police

Police, Panjáb.

are generally in charge of police-stations, it is necessary to improve their status. Their scale of pay should be increased, and they should be made eligible for admission to the Lieutenant-Governor's darbár. If these concessions were granted to them, a better class of men would be forthcoming for the office.

A correspondent of the Roh-i-Nar (Lahore, of the 7th Cattle-poisoning in the July, says that in Kotla, Amritsar, Panjáb.

about seventy or eighty cattle were killed by sweepers by poison for the sake of their skins. When a cultivator lately accused the sweepers of this, they laid violent hands on him and are now awaiting their trial at Amritsar. In order to check the crime of cattle-

Circulation, 975 copies.

Circulation, 300 copies.

Circulation, 450 copies. should not be made over to sweepers but should be buried under ground, and from the fines inflicted on persons convicted of poisoning any cattle, suitable compensation should be paid to the owners of the animals. Moreover, security should be taken from suspected cattle-poisoners. The Aftabii-Panjab, Lahore, of the 10th July, is of opinion that the skins of animals killed by poison should be buried under ground or destroyed in some other way, but should not be given to sweepers; and that persons convicted of the offence should be severely punished. A correspondent of the KohiNúr, of the 11th July, urges that restrictions should be imposed on the sale of poisonous drugs, and that the supply of such drugs to the lower classes of people should be entirely prohibited.

Circulation,

Central Provinces Gov. to the Central Provinces Government Wards Bill. Wards Bill, observes that it commented at some length on the Bill in an English article published in the last issue. As the landlords in the province are deeply interested in the measure, they should carefully examine it and send their opinions in time to Government. There seems to be no reason why the advantages of the measure should not be extended to persons other than landlords possessing valuable immoveable property but unable to manage it properly owing to ignorance or insanity.

Circulation, 275 copies. The Panjáb-i-Akhbár (Lahore), of the 8th July, referring Scarcity of Sikh re- to the remarks made by the Panjáb cruits for the Army. Government on the scarcity of Sikh recruits for the army in the Panjáb Administration Report for 1883-84, concurs with the Civil and Military Gazette in ascribing the scarcity to the low rates of pay allowed to native soldiers. The Akhbár says that another cause of complaint with native soldiers is the unjust distinction recognised between them and European soldiers. Natives have to work considerably harder than Europeans, while the pay of

the latter is five or six times that of the former. Other indulgences are also shown to European soldiers which are withheld from natives.

A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Peshawar, regrets to say that the Cansentry who shot a coolie at

Peshawar.

Buropean sentry who lately shot a punkha coolie, has acquitted the accused, as might have been expected. European
soldiers at Peshawar take good care not to interfere with robbers who carry away arms, but are quite ready to shoot coolies
and travellers.

The Ashatul Sunnat (Lahore), for January, received on the 10th July, is glad to say that the Preservation of old Mu-Panjáb Government lately thanked hammadan mosques. the editor by a letter for the articles he had published from time to time in praise of the British Government. He is very thankful to the Panjáb Government for this and makes another proposal for its consideration. The preservation of old mosques and other Muhammadan religious buildings greatly recommends itself on political grounds. But it is to be regretted that some mosques have been demolished and some devoted by Government to purposes other than those for which they were intended. Let by-gones be by-gones, but such a bad policy should be eschewed in future. It is to be hoped that the rumour regarding the sale of some old public buildings at Lahore is unfounded.

The Almora Akhbár, of the 6th July, is glad to say that Rajwár Pushkar Pál, appointed an Honorary Magistrate with mora.

Rajwár Pushkar Pál, appointed an Honorary Magistrate with second class powers, to be exercised within the parganas of Sira, Askote, &c., and urges that he should be also invested with civil powers and the powers of an Assistant Collector and a Sub-registrar. At present the inhabitants of the said parganas have to go to Almora or

Circulation, 350 copies,

was pay to the

Circulation, 106 copies. Champawat to file all their civil suits and register their documents. But if the Rajwar, who is an able man and belongs to a high family, is invested with the powers in question, the people would be saved a great deal of unnecessary inconvenience and expense.

POST-OFFICE AND RAILWAY.

The Subodh Sindhu (Khandwa), of the 8th July, says Commission for the sale that the rate of commission for the of postal stamps. sale of postal stamps has been lately reduced from half an anna to quarter of an anna per rupee. This reduction in the commission will effect no material saving in the public expenditure, but will press severely on poor stamp-vendors who depend for their support on the income they derive from the commission.

Circulation, 405 copies.

A local correspondent of the Muttra Akhbar of the 8th July, referring to the Cawnpore-Time-table of the Cawnpore-Achnera Railway. Achnera Railway, remarks that, according to the new time-table which came into force on the 1st June, the Calcutta mail train arrives at the Háthras Road station at 8 A. M., and leaves again at 3 P. M., reaching Muttra at 5. This long stay of the train for seven hours not only exposes the passengers to considerable inconvenience, particularly as the Háthras Road station is a very small one, but also delays the mail, which is delivered at Muttra in the evening, and therefore persons are unable to answer their letters the same day. It should be remembered that Muttra, being a sacred place of Hindus, is visited by thousands of The Railway authorities would do well pilgrims every day. to revert to the late time-table which was quite unobjectionable.

Circulation, 182 copies. A correspondent of the Azad (Lucknow), of the 7th July,

Supply of water on the Oudh and Robilkhand and the Cawnpore-Achnera Railways.

says that he lately had occasion to travel by the Oudh and Rohilkhand and the Cawnpore-Achnera Railways and found the arrangements for the quate. Only one Brahmin is generally attached to a station for the purpose, and probably at some stations on the Cawnpore-Achnera line there is no Brahmin at all.

LOCAL.

The Prayag Samdchar (Allahabad), of the 8th July, Tahsili School at Kar. wonders that only Urdú and Persian chana, Allahabad. are taught at the Tahsili school at Karchana, Allahabad, and urges that Hindi instruction should be also introduced for the benefit of Hindú boys. The Magistrate should see to this.

The Rájpátáná Gazette (Ajmere), of the 6th July, com-Neglected condition of plains that the roads at Ajmere are roads at Ajmere. in a most neglected condition, and asks the municipal committee to improve them. Circulation, 600 copies.

Circulation, 315 copies.

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